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ABSTRACT

Meaningful learning of social studies content, skills, and values through a constructivist approach is this textbook's approach. The textbook is designed to help teachers facilitate students' development into problem-solvers and decision-makers who take an active role as citizens of their world. It is designed to illustrate the following: the strategies for teaching "powerful" social studies; the structure of the knowledge to be learned; and the theory and research explaining meaningful learning in social studies. The textbook is built on recognizing that students need to construct knowledge in their own minds for it to be meaningful to them. It is divided into the following chapters: (1) "Meaningful Social Studies and the Student"; (2) "Teaching for Meaningful Learning in Social Studies"; (3) "Helping Students Develop Social Studies Inquiry Skills"; (4) "Helping Students Construct Concepts"; (5) "Helping Students Use Inquiry to Build Generalizations"; (6) "Using Instructional Strategies That Help Students Learn"; (7) "Helping Students Relate to Individuals and Communities"; (8) "Helping Students Become Citizens in a Democratic Society in an Ever More Interdependent World"; (9) "Helping All Students Experience Meaningful Social Studies"; (10) "Helping Students Interpret History"; (11) "Helping Students Interpret the Earth and Its People through Geography"; (12) "Helping Students Make Economic Decisions"; (13) "Helping Students Learn through Multiple Assessments and Evaluation"; (14) "Planning Units of Various Lengths and Formats"; and (15) "Helping Students Learn Social Studies with Technology." (BT)

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